

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 06283 050913Z

12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3717

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 6283

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, IR

SUBJECT: STRIKE AT GENERAL TIRE PLANT

REF: MEMCON WITH SHERIDAN OF 14 JULY 1973

ANKARA FOR REGIONAL LABOR OFFICER

1. EMBASSY INFORMED 3 SEPTEMBER BY SHERIDAN, MANAGING DIRECTOR GENERAL TIRE OF IRAN, THAT PLANT STRUCK AS OF THAT MORNING. SHERIDAN CONCURRENTLY INFORMED BY FEREIDUN NASSERI, DIRGEN OF MANPOWER, MINISTRY OF LABOR, THAT WORK PERMIT OF WILLIAM SHEARER (U.S. CIT), PLANT PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR, BEING REVOKED AND SHEARER SHOULD LEAVE COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY.

2. REF REPORTED PRODUCTION SLOWDOWNS BY WORKERS AND MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO PLANT STOCKS WHILE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MINISTRY OF LABOR ON APPLICATION OF PROFIT SHARING SCHEME TO GENERAL TIRE WORKERS CONTINUED INCONCLUSIVELY. EMBASSY LABOR OFFICER REACHED NASSERI BY PHONE AFTERNOON OF 3 SEPTEMBER. LATTER STATED THAT IMPROPER

BEHAVIOR OF SHEARER VIS-A-VIS WORKERS WAS AN ISSUE IN STRIKE, THAT HE HAD BEEN DIRECTED BY QUOTE, HIGH PERSONALITY IN GOI, UNQUOTE TO LIFT SHEARER WORK PERMIT, BUT THAT FINAL DECISION ON SHEARER CASE DEFERRED BY ORDER OF LABOR MINISTER
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 06283 050913Z

MOINI UNTIL 5 SEPTEMBER.

3. EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED MINAI (AMERICAN DESK, MFA) WHO INDICATED HE WOULD LOOK INTO SITUATION. SHERIDAN, AND COMPANY ATTORNEY WESTBERG ARE SEEKING MEETING WITH NASSERI MORNING OF 5 SEPTEMBER IN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE SHEARER SITUATION AND HOPEFULLY GET NEGOTIATIONS IN TRAIN TO END STRIKE.

4. MINAI REPORTED BACK THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED QUESTION WITH MINISTER OF LABOR MOINI AND THAT IT WAS NOT RPT NOT GOI'S INTENTION TO EXPEL SHEARER BUT RATHER TO WARN SHEARER TO CONDUCT HIMSELF WITH MORE CIRCUMSPECTION.

5. COMMENT: BELIEVE MOINI REPORT TO FOREIGN MINISTRY IS FACE-SAVING EXPLANATION. HOWEVER, LOCAL GENERAL TIRE OFFICIALS INDICATE THEY MAY WELL ASK SHEARER TO LEAVE EVEN IF WORK PERMIT NOGUCANCELLED IN ORDER CLEAR AIR.
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